some business houses. But, so far, no specific information regarding setting up of charitable trusts in such territories for the purpose of tax avoidance has come to the notice of the Government.

The Government has taken legislative measures from time to time to curb this tendency of tax avoidance by the means of setting up charitable trusts/ institutions. Restrictions have been imposed regarding investment of funds by charitable trusts| institutions and passing of any direct or indirect benefit to the persons connected with the trusts|institutions. Recently by Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987 many loopholes in this regard have been plugged and the provisions regarding exemption of charitable trusts|institutions have been streamlined. According to the amended law effective from 1-4-1989, such institutions|trusts would be required to submit returns relating to their income by way of donations received etc. and give details about the utilization of such incomes|its investments in the specified modes.

Exemption of Excise Duty on Diesel used in Boats by Fishermen

2408. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are considering a proposal to exempt excise duty on diesel used in mechanised boats by fishermen; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) No Such proposal is under consideration. High speed diesel oil used in deep-sea fishing vessels which are not less than 13.7 metres in length and using motors not less than 150 BHP is entitled to exemption from 50 per cent of the normal excise duty leviable on such diesel oil. Full exemption from excise duy can be claimed in such cases if proof of exports of shrimp at the rate of 1 tonne for every 1.08 KL of diesel used is produced. The concessions in excise duty on diesel oil used by mechanised fishing vessels are considered adequate.

Extension of the Life of Maharashtra Raw Cotton Procurement Processing and Marketing Act 1971.

2409. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received a proposal from the Maharashtra Government to accord necessary approval for extending the life of Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement, Processing and Marketing) Act 1971 by a further period of 10 years; and

(b) if so, what decision the Central Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Act is valid upto 30.6.1989. A decision will be taken before it expires.

Machinery items required by Cooperative to take all necessary steps with regard to Spinning Mills in Maharashtra

2410. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that sixteen cooperative spinning mills in Maharashtra are unable to complete the installation of machinery for non-availability of essential machinery items in the context of winding up of the Machinery Manufacturing Corporation; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to provide the requisite machinery to the above spinning mills and what steps are being taken to revive the Machinery Manufacturing Corporation?